

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on September 02, 2008 has been entered.

2. Claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 11, 13 and 14 are currently pending in this application.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on September 02, 2008 was filed after the mailing date of the notice of allowance on May 30, 2008. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1, 3, 6, 10, 11, 13 and 14 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record fairly suggests or shows all of the limitations as claimed.

Specifically, re claim 1, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, a structurally supported LCD media comprising:

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an initial structural layer made of glass;

a plurality of LC layers;

a plurality of addressable layers, each of which is made from a plastic film or a plastic sheet having predetermined optical properties, the addressable layers being provided on opposite sides of each one of the LC layers, and wherein the layers have narrow conductive pathways on opposing faces of the addressable layers on opposite sides of each one of the LC layers, the pathways respectively addressing a predetermined LC volume between the pathways, and the pathways are being respectively accessible for interconnection with a LC electric pulse driving means;

a final structural layer made of glass and being of predetermined optical transparency to frequencies of light scattered and/or reflected by the LC layers; and

means for sealing the initial layer to the final layer with the addressable layers and the LC layers there-between, and having there-through a continuation of said respective accessible interconnection.

The most relevant references, US 6,147,726 issued to Kubota et al. (Kubota) and US 6,812,977 B1 issued to Iwamatsu et al. (Iwamatsu), fail to disclose or suggest the claimed invention.

At first, Kubota fails to disclose additional addressable layers provided outside the outermost LC layers and having conductive pathways formed thereon. As shown in Fig. 8, Kubota discloses a plurality of composite multi-layer films (95, 96, 97) comprising a plurality of LC layers and a plurality of addressable layers (98, 99) made of plastic and having conductive pathways (101, 102, 103) formed on opposite sides of the

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addressable layers. However, the conductive pathways 109 and 108 at the outermost LC layers are formed on the initial structural layer 92 made of glass and the final structural layer 91 made of glass respectively.

Further, as shown in Figs. 5-9, Iwamatsu discloses a structurally supported LCD media comprising a plurality of LC layers (LCb, LCg, LCr) and a plurality of addressable layers (S11, S12), each of which is made from a plastic film or a plastic sheet having predetermined optical properties, the addressable layers being provided on opposite sides of each one of the LC layers, and wherein the layers have narrow conductive pathways (E11, E12) on opposing faces of the addressable layers on opposite sides of each one of the LC layers, the pathways respectively addressing a predetermined LC volume between the pathways, and the pathways are being respectively accessible for interconnection with a LC electric pulse driving means. However, Iwamatsu does not suggest an initial structural layer made of glass, a final structural layer made of glass, and means for sealing the initial layer to the final layer with the addressable layers and the LC layers there-between, and having there-through a continuation of said respective accessible interconnection.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thoi V. Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms, can be reached at (571) 272-1787.

/Thoi V. Duong/ - Primary Examiner

October 9, 2008